

## In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of deploying a fixed wireless access communications network such that a specified level of link performance is maintained, said network comprising a plurality of base stations and a plurality of subscriber stations, each subscriber station being arranged to communicate with one of the base stations via a communications link, said method comprising the steps of:-
  - (i) receiving a request including a proposed ~~to-change~~ to the communications network;
  - (ii) determining a level of link performance provided by each of the communications links taking into account the proposed change; and
  - (iii) effecting the proposed change if each of said determined levels of link performance are greater than the ~~pre~~-specified level of link performance.
2. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said step (ii) of determining comprises calculating a predicted level of link performance on the basis of location ~~information about the locations of~~ regarding each base station, and each subscriber station and information about the communications links between each subscriber station and its associated base station.
3. (original) A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said information about the communications links comprises information about a fixed frequency plan used to arrange the communications network.
4. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said step (ii) of determining comprises measuring the level of link performance.
5. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said proposed change to the communications network comprises the addition of an additional subscriber station, and wherein ~~said step (iii) further comprises, if at least one of said determined levels of link performance is not greater than said specified level, then keeping said proposed~~ additional subscriber station on hold and not effecting the proposed change if at least one of said determined levels of link performance is not greater than said specified level.
6. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said proposed change to the communications network comprises the addition of an additional subscriber station and wherein said method further comprises the step of selecting a chosen

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base station with which the additional subscriber station is to communicate if the proposed change is effected.

7. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein each of the communications links is associated with one of a plurality of communications channels and wherein ~~said step of selecting a base station~~ the method further comprises selecting a channel for communication between the ~~proposed~~ additional subscriber station and the chosen base station.
8. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 7 wherein said channel is selected on the basis of information about the communications network ~~and in an arbitrary manner~~.
9. (original) A method as claimed in claim 7 wherein said channel is selected on the basis of a fixed frequency plan.
10. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 7 ~~which further comprises, wherein~~ if at least one of said determined levels of link performance is not greater than said specified level for said channel, ~~then the method further comprises selecting a different channel for communication between the additional subscriber station and the chosen base station-repeating the method for the same chosen base station but a different selected channel.~~
11. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the specified level of link performance level ~~may differ~~ is different for different subscriber stations.
12. (original) A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said predicted link performance levels are determined on the basis of estimated link budgets.
13. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said predicted link performance levels are determined on the basis of a calculated value  $C/(I+A+N)$ , ~~where C is an estimate of the~~ a carrier level for the link, I is an ~~divided by the sum of estimates estimate of each of the~~ an interference level for the link, A is an estimate of an plus the adjacent channel interference level for an adjacent channel for the link, and N is an estimate of the a noise level for the link.
14. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 5 which further comprises the step of calculating a ratio of ~~the~~ a number of additional subscriber stations placed on hold to ~~the~~ a total number of requests including a proposed change to the communications network comprising the proposed additional of an additional subscriber station to add subscriber stations to the network.

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15. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said fixed wireless access communications network is organised according to a fixed frequency plan.
  16. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said fixed wireless access communications network is not organised according to a fixed frequency plan.
  17. (currently amended) A computer system for deploying a fixed wireless access communications network such that a specified level of link performance is maintained, said network comprising a plurality of base stations and a plurality of subscriber stations, each subscriber station being arranged to communicate with one of the base stations via a communications link, said computer system comprising:-
    - (i) an input arranged to receive a request including a proposed ~~to~~-change to the communications network;
    - (ii) a processor arranged to determine a level of link performance provided by each of the communications links, taking into account the proposed change to the communications network; and wherein said processor is further arranged to allow the proposed change to be effected if each of said determined levels of link performance are greater than the ~~pre~~-specified level of link performance.
  18. (currently amended) A computer program stored on a computer readable medium and arranged to control a computer system such that a fixed wireless access communications network may be deployed whilst a specified level of link performance is maintained, said network comprising a plurality of base stations and a plurality of subscriber stations, each subscriber station being arranged to communicate with one of the base stations via a communications link, said computer program being arranged to control said computer system such that:-
    - (i) a request is received including a proposed ~~to~~-change to the communications network;
    - (ii) a level of link performance provided by each of the communications links is determined, taking into account the proposed change; and
    - (iii) said change is effected if each of said determined levels of link performance are greater than the ~~pre~~-specified level of link performance.
  19. (currently amended) A fixed wireless access communications network comprising:-
    - (i) a plurality of base stations and a plurality of subscriber stations;
    - (ii) a communications link between each subscriber station and one of the base stations; and wherein each of said communications links link provides a specified level of link performance.

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20. A fixed wireless access communications network as claimed in claim 19 wherein the locations of the base stations are selected according to a fixed frequency plan, and the frequencies of ~~said~~ each communications links ~~are~~ is selected according to the fixed frequency plan.
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